

### Claims

1. A composition for application to the hair or skin wherein said composition comprises a conditioning polymer encapsulated in a lipid vesicle.

2. A composition of claim 1, wherein said polymer is a polyvinylpyrrolidone.

3. A composition of claim 1, wherein said polymer is a polyoxyethylene ether.

4. A composition of claim 1, wherein said polymer is a polymer of hyaluronic acid.

5. A composition of claim 1, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

6. A composition of claim 2, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

7. A composition of claim 3, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

8. A composition of claim 4, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

9. A composition of claim 5, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

(a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxyated amine, or a mixture thereof;

(b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;

(c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and

(d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

10. A composition of claim 6, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

(a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxyated amine, or a mixture thereof;

(b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;

(c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and

(d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

11. A composition of claim 7, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

(a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxyated amine, or a mixture thereof;

(b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;

(c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and

(d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

12. A composition of claim 8, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

(a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester,  
an alkoxyated amine, or a mixture thereof;

(b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl  
monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture  
thereof;

(c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and

(d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

13. A composition of claim 1, wherein said  
composition further comprises a detergent.

14. A method of conditioning, strengthening, or  
moisturizing the hair, said method comprising topically  
applying a composition comprises a conditioning polymer  
encapsulated in a lipid vesicle.

15. A method of claim 14, wherein said polymer is a  
polyvinylpyrrolidone.

16. A method of claim 14, wherein said polymer is a  
polyoxyethylene ether.

17. A method of claim 14, wherein said lipid  
vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic  
liquid.

18. A method of claim 15, wherein said lipid  
vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic  
liquid.

19. A method of claim 16, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises a dual chain lipid and a hydrophilic liquid.

5 20. A method of claim 17, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

(a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxyated amine, or a mixture thereof;

10 (b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;

(c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and

(d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

15 21. A method of claim 18, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

(a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxyated amine, or a mixture thereof;

20 (b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;

(c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and

(d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

25 22. A method of claim 19, wherein said lipid vesicle comprises:

(a) a dual chain lipid which is a glyceryl diester, an alkoxyated amine, or a mixture thereof;

30 (b) a single chain lipid which is a glyceryl monoester, a polyoxyethylene fatty ether, or a mixture thereof;

(c) a sterol which is cholesterol; and

(d) a hydrophilic liquid which is water.

23. A method of claim 14, wherein said composition further comprises a detergent.